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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. ~~SECRET~~

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 7 July 1949

SUBJECT Desire of High-Ranking Korean Army Officers
for an Invasion of North Korea

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. In a recent discussion concerning the defense of the Republic of Korea, CH'AE Pyung-tuk, Chief of Staff, Korean Army, stated that his interest in defensive plans is only secondary; his primary interest is in attacking North Korea as soon as possible. CH'AE and several staff officers spoke at length of the necessity of obtaining additional arms for the defense of South Korea, but admitted frankly that their personal intent is to establish an army sufficiently strong to invade North Korea before reinforcements from Manchuria and China bolster the North Korean People's Army and security forces.
2. Colonel PAIK Sun-hyup, G-2, Korean Army, agreed with the Chief of Staff that North Korea has superiority in armored equipment and aircraft. CH'AE hopes that the United States will furnish additional armor and aircraft. The officers hinted that if sufficient aid were not forthcoming from the U.S., it might be necessary to obtain aircraft from another country*.

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* ~~SECRET~~ Comment. The other country was not specified.

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